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**Grant
Announcement**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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***Carson Announces Assistance to Two Okmulgee County Fire Departments
Fire Grants Awarded to Salem-Ryal Volunteer Fire Department and the
Grayson Fire Department for Personal Protective Equipment***

Washington, D.C. --

Second District Congressman Brad Carson (D-OK) announced the awarding of two Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grants to fire departments in Okmulgee County. The Grayson Volunteer Fire Department received \$15,135 and the Salem-Ryal Volunteer Fire Department received \$13,272. The two departments will be able to use federal funding to purchase personal protective equipment for the firefighters.

"I am very excited to announce these awards," Congressman Carson stated. "As I have traveled Northeastern Oklahoma, I have seen a real need for our firefighters to have adequate firefighting equipment. Federal funds will be used to assist the departments in purchasing equipment necessary for the safety of the men and women who serve their communities."

The FEMA Fire Grant is the first federal assistance to fire departments. Grant awards may be used to purchase vehicles, protective and firefighting equipment, as well as to develop training and fitness programs. FEMA will distribute \$100 million this year to fire departments by the end of September. Since July, fifteen grants have been given to Congressman Carson's district, totaling \$1,199,052.

Since taking office in January, Congressman Carson has made securing grant money for the Second District one of his top priorities. In particular, Congressman Carson has worked closely with fire departments across the district in providing assistance to the Fire Grant Program. Congressman Carson anticipates Congress will fund the program for next year. "The Fire Grant Program is a highly beneficial program, which helps ensure the safety of our communities. If the program is funded for a second year, I will continue to provide whatever guidance needed to departments in my district."

Congressman Carson will contact departments in his district regarding the second phase of the program early next year. Departments may contact Shane Jernigan in Washington, D.C. at (202) 225-2701 for any questions or to request assistance.

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